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CLASSIFICATION

19. Febr. 1954

TO: Chief, XE (Attn: Chief, SR)

Attn: ☐

FROM: Chief of Mission, Frankfurt *W/V*

INFO: COM

SUBJECT: GENERAL— REDSOX/CART/AEBATH

specific— Anti-STETSKO Opposition in the AEW

ROUTING

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*8/2/54*

Transmitted herewith is an AECAPKIN report on opposition to Yaroslav STETSKO, president of the ECHOUN-dominated AEW, by elements favoring a more equitable nationalities policy.

Enclosure:  
AECAPKIN Report

18 February 1954

Distribution:

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ATTACHMENT TO EDMA-9926

SUBJECT: Conflict within the ABN

SOURCE: ANDAPLIN from: ☐ ☒ Ivan KASHUBA, Memorial of the  
Opposition to the ABN Central Committee

1. The idea of founding an anti-Bolshevik bloc of nations arose in the Ukraine at the Third Extraordinary Congress of the URM in 1943. That congress made initial plans for such an organization based on democratic principles. The Soviet advance during World War II prevented its realization in the Ukraine but in 1945 such a body was created in the emigration. The idea was to coordinate the activities of all nationalities under the rule of Moscow. The Ukrainians, at that time represented by the ZCHOUN and ZPUNVR, were the strongest representation when the ABN was organized in 1945 and gave tone to the project. Yaroslav STETSKO became its president, but he did not understand the intentions that motivated those who gave birth to the idea in 1943. STETSKO made the ABN an instrument of exclusive Ukrainian interest, ignoring or minimizing the interests of other nationalities. Protests against STETSKO's leadership began in 1946, pointing out his arbitrary tactics and failure to consult the non-Ukrainian delegates. The complaint was frequent that the ABN had lost its international character and had become a tool of one Ukrainian group, the ZCHOUN. More than half of ABN propaganda activities, for example, concern the Ukrainian problem exclusively. Most of the writers in ABN publications are Ukrainians.

2. STETSKO's policy was deemed harmful by ZPUNVR, which frequently warned him of the harmfulness of his ways. ZPUNVR, being charged by the URVR in the Ukraine with the execution of URVR policy abroad, several times demanded that STETSKO give consideration to the interests of the non-Ukrainian groups. In March 1950, ZPUNVR was forced to publish a communique, point A, paragraph 2 of which reads as follows: "Simultaneously individual ZCHOUN members continue without authorization to act in the name of the URVR and the UPA and of the entire revolutionary underground, exploiting the name of the URVR and UPA for their party objectives, including monetary collection drives in the name of the UPA. In connection with the above the public is hereby informed that Mr. Yaroslav STETSKO is a member neither of the URVR nor of ZPUNVR. Authority given to him regarding the ABN by the above-mentioned organs is revoked." STETSKO did not abide by this decision and continued his policy.

3. Dissatisfaction among non-Ukrainians in the ABN reached a climax when Cossack, Czech, Hungarian and Byelorussian delegates early in November 1951 initiated a drive for change. On 6 November 1951 they presented a memorial to the ABN President wherein they criticized STETSKO's policy and demanded a plenary ABN session within two weeks. The memorial was signed by GRASOV, BUC, Vladimir PRUKNY, Dr. V. STEPSYARALJAY-HAKDEL and A. CHUTSKY.

4. According to STETSKO and Ivan KASHUBA, the opposition within the ABN was encouraged by the American consulate in Munich. According to KASHUBA, ☐ and Leon PHILIP, Vice-consul KENNEDY is concerned with political atmosphere.

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gence matters and has close contacts with GLACKOV and other non-Ukrainians in the ABW. In talks with these KENDRICK several times emphasized that the Americans would gladly support the ABW if it became truly international and democratic. Thus reformed, the ABW can count on American support. In consequence, the non-Ukrainians in the ABW decided to press for reforms.

5. What are STETSKO's intentions? According to KASHUBA, STETSKO is alarmed and is aware that the opposition has grown. At first STETSKO intended to react radically by removing GLACKOV and PIKELSKY from the organization completely, having them replaced by other Cossack and Czech representatives. He reconsidered, however, when he heard that they were supported by the Americans and decided upon a different tactic. He intends to sound out the opposition to obtain its precise plans (whom they desire to head the ABW, how they understand democratization, and whom they have in mind when they speak of the Western democratic world). Armed with such findings, STETSKO will make appropriate decisions. The Plenary session will not take place in two weeks, as demanded by the opposition, according to KASHUBA.

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